REMARKS TO THE CLAIMS

I.   Status of Claims

Cancelled claims are: 3, 7-12, 14, 16, 18 and19. Applicant amended claims 1, 6, 15, 17

and 20 that find basis in the original specification. No new matter has been inserted into

the amended claims. Pending claims are: 1,2 4-6, 13, 15, 17 and 20.

II.   Claim Rejections 35 USC § 112

Applicant substantially revised the claims to address the issues stated by the

Examiner.

III.   Claim Rejections 35 USC § 102

Applicant is asking to remove the reference Weiss et al (US Patent 5,990,479).

The disclosed invention by Weiss et al does not teach about the plasmon-induced

multiband optical sensing argued by Applicant as being essential in his instant invention.

The Weiss et al invention teaches about the immunoassay method based upon the single

narrow band emission of the luminescent semiconductor nanocrystal. The attached

molecules and linking agents to the nanocrystal are modifying luminescent properties of

the nanocrystal that is monitored in immunoassays proposed by Weiss et al. The

Applicant invention is very different from the Weiss et al invention. Applicant proposes

optochemical sensing by monitoring plasmon-induced multiband spectral properties of

the molecule and not the nanoparticle, and in the proposed method there is no

requirement that the nanoparticle (nanocrystal) must be luminescent or has multiband

spectral properties. Applicant substantially revised the second paragraph and the instant

claims to support his arguments of the instant invention. Reconsideration and withdrawal

of this rejection are respectfully requested, and Applicant earnestly requests prompt

allowance of the pending claims.

IV.   Conclusion

All outstanding issues have been addressed. Taking into consideration the totality of the application as filed (i.e., the specification, claims and drawings), the currently amended application is in compliance with 35 USC § 112.

Sincerely,

03/06/07
_____   Date

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